Reporting of Cases of Accidents by Zonal Railways

3499. DR. K. MALAISAMY:
SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is under reporting of cases of accidents by zonal Railways to Railway Board who in turn again under report from the report received, to the Parliament;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that while the Commission of Railway Safety was enquiring into all serious accidents, only 5 to 6 per cent of the cases alone were enquired into;

(d) whether important safety aids identified and recommended by various committees have been implemented; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir. All consequential train accidents are reported by the Zonal Railways to the Railway Board. These consequential train accidents are in turn reported to the Parliament as and when the information is called for.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Commission of Railway Safety inquires into all serious train accidents in terms of Section 114 of the Railways Act, 1989. During the year 2004-05, out of 234* consequential train accidents, 19* (8.1%) cases have been inquired into by the Commission of Railway Safety. During the current year upto November, 2005, out of 169* consequential train accidents, 20* (11.8%) cases fall under purview of the Commission of Railway Safety.

(d) and (e) Railways Safety Review Committee (Khanna Committee)

*Figures are provisional.

which was set up in 1998 under the Chairmanship of Justice H.R. Khanna, a retired Supreme Court Judge, has, *inter alia*, reviewed the recommendations of earlier Committees and suggested measures for further improvement in the safe running of trains.

The Committee made a total of 278 recommendations in its Report (150 in Part-I and 128 in Part-II) on various issues concerning railway safety, including adoption of technical aids. Of these, 38 could not be accepted due to various reasons.

Of the 240 recommendations that have been accepted fully or partially, 168 recommendations have already been implemented till November 2005. Balance recommendations are at various stages of implementation.

Second India-Pakistan Rail Link

3500. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Railways is planning to cover Second India-Pakistan link by next year connecting Indian village of Mannabau in Rajasthan and a small town Kokrapur in southern Pakistan; and

(b) if so, what are the modalities worked out for safety of the passengers in view of the terrorism prevailing in the border areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The modalities for safety of passengers are in the process of being worked out.

Ajmer-Pushkar Railway Lines

†3501. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress regarding Ajmer-Pushkar railway line;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.